



**COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL**  
**ORDINARY MEETING**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**  
**COFF AND CASTLE STREETS, COFFS HARBOUR**  
**8 APRIL 2010**

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## **COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL**

### **ORDINARY MEETING**

**8 APRIL 2010**

Mayor and Councillors

#### **NOTICES OF MOTION**

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**NOM10/4      SUITABLE PREMISES FOR COFFS HARBOUR CITY LIBRARY**

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**Purpose:**

Councillor Paul Templeton has given notice of his intention to move:

That Council consider using No. 25-31 Gordon Street, Coffs Harbour, as premises suitable for the Coffs Harbour Library instead of the current plan to use Brelsford Park.

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**NOM10/5      COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL PLACE MOTION TO NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGARDING NEGLECT OF NATIONAL RAIL SYSTEM**

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**Purpose:**

Councillor Rodney Degens has given notice of his intention to move:

That Coffs Harbour City Council place the following motion onto the agenda of the National General Assembly held in Canberra from the 14th to 18th June, 2010.

**Rationale**

The following motion is the product of collaboration between the Coffs Harbour City Council Rail Working Group, other rail consultants and other rail working groups. It follows on from the motion presented in 2009 by Coffs Harbour City Council at the National General Assembly for Local Government, but addresses the rail issue at a more elementary level.

**Notice of Motion (For the National General Assembly)**

**Recommendation**

That the Coffs Harbour City Council moves that the state of neglect of the National Rail System be addressed through the formation of a Government Authority for Rail.

That the Australian Rail Track Corporation be reconstituted as a government authority, by an act of Parliament; charged with the responsibility of getting more freight onto rail by lifting the average speed of intermodal trains to average 80 km/h between terminals, the speeding up of intercity rail passenger trains, plus assisting the re-establishment of local rail services with adequate funding.

**Rationale**

The new authority would be charged with the responsibility of getting more freight onto rail and lifting the average speed of intermodal trains to average 80 km/h between terminals. A maximum speed of 115 kph and an average speed of 80 kph at axle loads up to 21 tonnes was agreed to by the Australian Transport Council at its historic National Rail Summit in September 1997. Some twelve and half years later, these goals still remain elusive on the North South corridor.

The new authority would also be charged with the responsibility to improve passenger service times for regional rail.

The new authority would be charged with the responsibility of supporting and assisting local councils and rail groups in their quests to re-establish local passenger services particularly in regional areas.

The establishment of an Australian Rail Track Authority in place of the ARTC would provide a better framework for these goals to be achieved and to grow the rail freight task.

ARTC is at present a Federal run corporate identity that is chartered to run at a profit. It is supposed to encourage both passenger and rail, but is essentially mainly interested in freight. The ARTC by its corporate structure is severely constrained in its ability of the building of new track. The new authority similar to the RTA would be responsible for the Passenger Task as well.

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**Cont'd**

**NOM10/5 Coffs Harbour City Council Place Motion to National General Assembly  
Regarding Neglect of National Rail System ...(Cont'd)**

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Initial goals for the regional passenger task could be to achieve a 'Fairly Fast Train' service between Sydney and Newcastle using upgraded present day XPTs, or better, to achieve an average speed of at least 160 km/h - a resultant trip of One and a Half Hours.

As a government authority, through an act of parliament, this authority would be able to acquire or resume land for new track in the way the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority can obtain land for major highways. This new authority would be better placed to strengthen mainline track to allow for 30 tonne axle loads and improve clearances - both horizontal and vertical - where necessary.

The goal for the defined interstate rail network should be to raise its standards to something similar to those applicable to US-Canada Class I intermodal standards, allowing for the operation of standard North American locomotives and rolling stock. At present, this is simply not possible because of the lower axle loads and limited clearances on the Australian network.

## CORPORATE BUSINESS DEPARTMENT REPORTS

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### CB10/16      SAWTELL TOORMINA SPORTS & RECREATION CLUB - APPLICATION FOR A LOAN

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#### **Purpose:**

The Sawtell Toormina Sports & Recreation Club is seeking a loan of \$15,000 to complete lighting projects at three ovals the Club controls.

#### **Description of Item:**

The Sawtell Toormina Sports & Recreation Club is an incorporated body which has a lease with Council and provides, maintains and improves significant playing fields on Council's behalf.

Mr Allan McDonald, as Chairman of the Sawtell Toormina Sports & Recreation Club, has written to Council seeking a loan of \$15,000 in relation to Stage 3 of a program to upgrade flood lighting to Rugby Park, Rex Hardaker Oval and a second field at Rex Hardaker. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$135,000 with Stages 1 and 2, completed to date at a cost of \$110,000 (funded \$80,000 by the Club and \$30,000 provided in Council's 2008/09 Management Plan). The cost of Stage 3, being the second Oval at Rex Hardaker, will cost \$25,000 and \$15,000 is being sought as a loan from Council to enable the work to continue.

#### **Sustainability Assessment:**

- **Environment**

The upgrade to the lighting of the playing fields results in the replacement of old lighting with a better quality and more efficient lighting system. Energy consumption is likely to be marginally increased as a result of the project. There should be little or no impact in relation to heritage, habitat disturbance, biodiversity, water consumption/disposal, material consumption/waste, transport and air quality.

- **Social**

The improved lighting should result in better vision for night time users which will lead to more enjoyable playing conditions and lesser chance of injury. Field use will increase accordingly.

- **Economic**

#### **Broader Economic Implications**

It is proposed that the loan would be over five years at an interest rate of 6.5%. This is the rate used in relation to small loans to community organisations providing a service on behalf of Council. The loan repayments will be paid quarterly at \$1,072.20 per instalment.

The Club currently does not have a loan with council. The Club has provided a copy of their last audited financial reports to 30 June 2009. They run a significant operation and given the funds they have raised to put into the lighting project, it is considered that loan repayments can be afforded and will be met.

**Cont'd**

Better facilities will result in greater participation and potentially greater income for the Club.

**Management Plan Implications**

The initial outlay of \$15,000 has a deficit impact on Council's financial position. As the Club repays the loan the principal repaid has a surplus impact on Council's financial position. The interest rate of 6.5% represents a reasonable return for the funds outlaid.

**Consultation:**

Colin Spring, Council's Executive Manager - Business Units, is the responsible Council Officer and he has advised that the Club has done a very good job of managing facilities over a long period, including capital improvements. The lighting program has been the catalyst for greater utilisation of the sporting complex and support for the loan is recommended.

**Related Policy and / or Precedents:**

Based on each applications merit, Council grants low interest loans to sporting groups, which provide a service on behalf of Council, to assist them with capital projects.

**Statutory Requirements:**

The Local Government Act and Regulations permit such a loan to be made.

**Issues:**

The loan will permit the finalisation of a significant project and the Club has the capacity to meet repayments. The Stage 3 works are being undertaken as a progression from Stages 1 and 2 which provides savings in cost and time. To delay the project until the Club save sufficient funds is not desirable especially as completion of the works will assist with raising additional income to meet the loan repayments.

**Implementation Date / Priority:**

The works are being undertaken as a progression from Stage 1 and 2 works which are finalised.

**Recommendation:**

**That a loan of \$15,000 be made to the Sawtell Toormina Sports & Recreation Club on the following terms and conditions:**

- 1. The principal be repaid over a term of 5 years at an interest rate of 6.5% per annum with quarterly repayments of \$1,072.20 in arrears.**
- 2. Repayments be made by direct bank transfer.**
- 3. The loan commence on 30 April 2010.**

**Purpose:**

To provide Council with the recommended program of works for the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for inclusion in the 2010/2011 Draft Management Plan.

**Description of Item:**

Council invited submissions for funding from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy from Monday 2 November 2009 until Monday 14 December 2009.

A total of 30 submissions were received. A booklet containing all submissions is available in the Councillor's room for inspection.

The recommended program is included with this report.

The report was originally submitted to Council on 25 March 2010. A question was raised in relation to the priority associated with the project "Repair Creek Banks Surrounding Edward Sharpe Drive". A review of the scoring/ranking provided by the members of the committee has been undertaken. The review indicated that the project was ranked 15 out of 30 projects with a score of 16.33. The cut off for projects was at project 21 which had a score of 14.67. This and all other projects in the report are as per the recommendation of the committee.

**Sustainability Assessment:**

- **Environment**

The Environmental Levy Program is designed to ensure that environmental priorities (as outlined within Council's State of Environment Report) are addressed. All projects recommended for funding will result in beneficial outcomes for the environment of the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area (LGA).

- **Social**

Determination of successful projects is based on assessment criteria which includes the following:

- Generate a community benefit;
- Be community based; and
- Improved aesthetic quality of our natural environment and amenity.

A number of community groups applied for funding from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy, with several being recommended for receipt of some funding. In addition, the broader community benefits from the completion of high priority environmental management projects funded by the Environmental Levy.

**Cont'd**

- **Economic**

It is estimated that \$1,031,000 income will be available for Environmental Levy projects in 2010/2011. This includes income from the 2010/11 Environmental Levy and a contribution from the Water Fund of \$50,000 towards the Orara River works, and interest on unexpended funds. 30 submissions were received requesting a total of \$1,731,168.31 therefore all submissions are unable to be funded.

**Consultation:**

The Environmental Levy Working Group, which includes five community representatives, three Councillors and three staff members is an advisory committee of Council. The Environmental Levy Working Group met on 16 February 2010 to consider submissions and State of the Environment Report priorities and to recommend a program of works. The recommended program is included in this report and the minutes of the Working Group's meeting are provided in Attachment 1.

Where appropriate, discussions were held with Council staff with a specific area of expertise to obtain advice on works proposed in submissions.

**Related Policy and / or Precedents:**

Each year the Environmental Levy Program is formulated concurrent with the preparation of Council's Draft Management Plan. This allows community input and Environmental Levy Working Group discussion before the program of works are finalised. Assessment of submissions is undertaken in accordance with an adopted Council policy, which states that submissions must meet the following criteria to be eligible for funding:

- address an identified priority or priorities in Coffs Harbour City Council's most recent State of Environment Report;
- protect and enhance the natural environment;
- provide potential to attract outside funding sources;
- generate a community benefit and be community-based;
- meet a critical environmental need;
- improve aesthetic quality of our natural environment and amenity;
- works on private land must prove a "public benefit" rather than only benefiting an individual or group.

**Issues:**

The Environmental Levy Working Group's recommended 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program is shown below:

Submissions included in the recommended program address a priority one issue in Council's State of Environment Report. Several submissions are recommended with a reduced level of funding, such as Bushland Regeneration and the Orara River Rehabilitation Project.

**Cont'd**

**CB10/17 2010/2011 Environmental Projects Schedule ...(Cont'd)**

Details of all recommended projects are as follows, and a schedule of funding sources and summary of projects is included in Part 1 of the recommendations.

<b>Project</b>	<b>Recommended Amount</b>
Matching Grant Funding (future grants to be decided)	\$15,179
Environmental Levy Coordination	\$47,200
Conservation and Sustainable Management of Biodiversity in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area (wages for Bio Officers)	\$180,000
Supporting Community Action in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area	\$90,622
Coffs Jetty Foreshore Reserve Followup Jetty Dune Care Group	\$9,999
Orara River Restoration Project Cats Claw Creeper/Honey Locust Propagation Nursery Revegetation/Tree Planter Camphor Laurel/Privet Control Erosion Control/Fencing	\$190,000
Boambee Beach (bush regeneration and dune care work)	\$9,950
Ground Truthing of the New Generation Vegetation Layer (final)	\$25,000
Bushland Regeneration (wages for Bush Regeneration Officer and two assistants)	\$160,000
Bank Stabilisation – Fishing Club – Ferguson Cottage Area	\$4,450
Solitary Islands Coastal Walk – Charlesworth Bay to Diggers Headland	\$30,000
Coffs Harbour LGA Biodiversity Monitoring Program (Stage 1: Project Plan Preparation)	\$15,000
Environmental Weed Control Program 2009/10 Bitou Bush Camphor Laurel Privet Glory Lily Pine Trees Celtis/Pepper Tree Vine Weeds	\$100,000
Koala Plan of Management 2009 – Implementation 2010-2011	\$35,000
Repair Creek Banks Surrounding Edward Sharpe Bridge	\$21,600
Biodiversity Management in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area (Biodiversity Action Strategy Studies: Threatened Species - Quassia Project and Threatened Amphibian Census.)	\$25,000
Botanic Gardens Education Officer	\$18,000
Green Schools Sustainability Fund	\$14,000
Stormwater Assessment for Climate Change, Pollution and future maintenance	\$10,000
The Woolgoolga Flying-Fox Camp Strategy including Stage 1 implementation	\$15,000
Coffs Ambassadors Volunteer Interpretive Tours	\$15,000
	<b>\$1,031,000.00</b>

**Cont'd**

**CB10/17 2010/2011 Environmental Projects Schedule ...(Cont'd)**

<b>Projects not recommended</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>
Newports Creek Revegetation Project	\$22,336
Coffs Coast State Park Boambee Creek Rehabilitation Project	\$18,500
A Bright Idea: Bruce King Drive Solar Lighting	\$17,000
Headland Management Project (Coffs Coast)	\$14,000
Coffs Coast Outdoor Environmental Education, Cultural Heritage and Performance Venue	\$32,463
Poundyard Creek, West Woolgoolga Rehabilitation	\$37,600
Boambee Headland Coastal Walk Safety Fence	\$40,000
Impact on Freshwater Ecosystems (monitoring impacts of bush regeneration and weed eradication)	\$5,000
Wind Energy Feasibility Study	\$30,000
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$216,899</b>

***Funding Sources***

Environmental Levy	\$971,000
Interest on reserve	\$10,000
Water fund contribution	\$50,000
 Total funds	 \$1,031,000

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**RECOMMENDED PROJECTS:**

**MATCHING GRANT FUNDING**

Council adopted a policy on 12/06/97 (and subsequently review 15/12/05) that "up to \$50,000 be provided annually for the matching of grants subject to the amount remaining in the Environmental Levy Pool". The funding allocation is used to match grant funded environmental works which may arise after the annual environmental levy application and approval process has been completed.

**It is recommended that \$15,179 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Matching Grant Funding**

**ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY COORDINATION**

On 1 July 2006 the program support section of the finance branch became responsible for the administration of the Environmental Levy Program. To supplement resources to undertake the additional workload, a trainee was appointed. Continued funding of the additional resources is required to enable the administration to be effectively delivered.

**It is recommended that \$47,200 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Environmental Levy Coordination**

**Cont'd**

CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF BIODIVERSITY IN THE COFFS HARBOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

The positions of Senior Biodiversity Officer and Biodiversity Officer have been directly designed to fit major actions under Chapter 2 of Biodiversity priorities from the 2009 SoE Report (see page 35 of the SoE report).

Key projects are: Review and implement the Biodiversity Action Strategy, Implement actions contained within the Draft Priority Habitats and Corridors Strategy, devise a system for monitoring the extent of each vegetation type within the LGA, continue to undertake priority restoration works in conjunction with community Landcare, Dunecare and Rivercare groups.

**It is recommended that \$180,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Conservation and Sustainable Management of Biodiversity in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area**

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY ACTION IN THE COFFS HARBOUR LGA

Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare (CHRL) is an incorporated body which provides coordination and support to Landcare and other environmental groups and individuals who work voluntarily in rehabilitating degraded natural ecosystems. In 2010/11 this project will support over 300 Landcare volunteers through the provision of insurance, bush regeneration training, tools and materials and administration support. They will also rehabilitate and revegetate approx. 47.55 ha of vegetation across 14 volunteer work-sites.

**It is recommended that \$90,622.32 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Supporting Community Action in the Coffs Harbour LGA**

COFFS JETTY FORESHORE RESERVE FOLLOW UP

The Jetty Dunecare Group has requested \$9999.99 for the engagement of a qualified bush regeneration contractor to continue chemical weed eradication control along the Jetty Foreshores.

**It is recommended that \$9999.99 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Coffs Jetty Foreshore Reserve Follow-up**

BOAMBEE BEACH

A Bush regeneration contractor and Dunecare with help from corrective services departments will undertake weed control and planting. Unnecessary four wheel drive tracks are to be rehabilitated by planting coastal wattles and banksias.

**It is recommended that \$9,950 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Boambee Beach**

ORARA RIVER REHABILITATION PROJECT

The project has been continuing since 1999 when local Landcare groups commenced rehabilitation of the river through erosion control works, exclusion of stock from the riparian zone, extensive weed control and revegetation works. This project continues in 2010/2011 and will re-establish and maintain a healthy, stable river system with a riparian zone free of weeds and inhabited by native flora and fauna, including aquatic species.

**It is recommended that \$190,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Orara River Rehabilitation Project which includes an amount of \$50,000 from Coffs Coast Water, which is available subject to works receiving prior approval from Executive Manager, Operations – Coffs Coast Water**

Cont'd

GROUND TRUTHING OF THE NEW GENERATION VEGETATION LAYER (FINAL)

This project provides improved information on vegetation communities of the Coffs Harbour LGA to make better investment, planning and management decisions to ensure protection of our biodiversity.

**It is recommended that \$25,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Ground Truthing of the New Generation Vegetation Layer (Final)**

BUSHLAND REGENERATION

Last year \$154,000 was allocated to the Bush Regeneration Program. This year Council's Recreational Services Branch requested an increased amount of \$213,647 for the Bushland Regeneration Program. Specifically, this is to fund one bush regeneration officer and two assistants. Works are undertaken in accordance with an established program, details of which are included in the submission. The committee recommended that an amount of \$160,000 be allocated in the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy program.

**It is recommended that \$160,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Bushland Regeneration**

BANK STABILISATION – FISHING CLUB – FERGUSON COTTAGE AREA

This project is to replace noxious and environmental weeds with native plants, as well as stabilising the bank to minimise soil erosion through volunteer work and the hiring of a Bush Regeneration contractor to control the noxious and environmental weeds.

**It is recommended that \$4,450 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Bank Stabilisation – Fishing Club – Ferguson Cottage Area**

SOLITARY ISLANDS COASTAL WALK

The Solitary Islands Coastal Walk (SICW) originated as a community initiative to plan and develop a coastal walk from Sawtell to Arrawarra. Successive Environmental Levy Funding has progressed the construction of the SICW to date involving partnerships with EnviTE NSW with & Green Corps projects, each of 6 months duration, Work for the dole teams, several former Coastcare Grants and one Bushcare Grant and has involved various Landcare Volunteers. In 2010/11 EnviTE Green Corps/Work for Dole teams will undertake the works at Charlesworth Bay/Diggers Head to certified standards. The project will be managed by CHCC and NPWS.

**It is recommended that \$30,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Solitary Islands Coastal Walk**

COFFS HARBOUR LGA BIODIVERSITY MONITORING PROGRAM (STAGE 1: PROJECT PLAN PREPARATION)

This project will establish a sampling regime that enables the undertaking of repeatable “snapshots” of biodiversity-related values, resources and impacts across landscape of the Coffs Harbour LGA over time specifically including flora inventories and distribution and abundance of feral pest species.

**It is recommended that \$15,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Coffs Harbour LGA Biodiversity Monitoring Program (Stage 1: Project Plan Preparation)**

Cont'd

ENVIRONMENTAL WEED CONTROL PROGRAM 2010/11

This project is a key component of natural area management within the local government area. Since 1998 it has integrated with the Bush Regeneration, Weed Services Control, Department of Environment and Climate Change and Coffs Harbour Regional Landcare programs across the LGA. This program specifically targets and reduces the impacts of Weeds of National Significance and serious environmental weeds on the biodiversity and natural heritage of the catchment.

**It is recommended that \$100,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Environmental Weed Control Program 2010/2011**

KOALA PLAN OF MANAGEMENT 2009 – IMPLEMENTATION 2010-2011

The Koala Plan of Management consists of four projects which promote koala health, habitat and education. Funding was requested for four projects those being; Prioritising Habitat and Corridors under the Koala Plan of Management, Restoration of locally significant habitat and corridors, Koala health and research programs and a school education program.

**It is recommended that \$35,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Koala Plan of Management 2009 – Implementation 2010/2011 for the Restoration of Locally Significant Habitat and Corridors and Koala Health and Research Programs**

REPAIR CREEK BANKS SURROUNDING EDWARD SHARPE BRIDGE

Floods during 2009 have resulted in major creek bank destabilization along the Orara River immediately adjacent to the Edward Sharpe Bridge at Nana Glen. This project will stabilise and rehabilitate the banks of the Orara River on the north eastern side of the Edward Sharpe Bridge.

**It is recommended that \$21,600 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Repair Creek Banks Surrounding Edward Sharpe Bridge**

BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT IN THE COFFS HARBOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

The Biodiversity Action Strategy (BAS) is a strategic document designed to outline actions required to secure the future viability of the biodiversity of the LGA. There are four projects in this application requesting a total of \$87,000, those being a threatened amphibian census, ongoing implementation of the vertebrate pest strategy, Threatened species – Quassia project and Biodiversity Education: Community Awareness.

**It is recommended that \$25,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Biodiversity Management in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area for the Threatened Species – Quassia Project, and the Threatened Amphibian Census**

BOTANIC GARDENS EDUCATION OFFICER

Recent works by the Education Officer have seen the development of a range of in house programs aimed at primary and secondary school children. Consultation and partnerships have been developed with most schools and education facilities, Taronga Zoo and the Australian Museum. Well over 1800 students from both state and independent schools have taken advantage of education programs in 2009. In 2010/11, the education officer will also work collaboratively with partners such as Cascade Environment Centre, Sydney Botanic Gardens and local schools to improve existing programs and deliver new programs as they are developed.

**It is recommended that \$18,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Botanic Gardens Education Officer**

Cont'd

GREEN SCHOOLS SUSTAINABILITY FUND

The Green Schools Sustainability Fund provides financial and in-kind support to Coffs Harbour Primary and High schools, to enable them to undertake actions from their school environment management plans. This project helps to build our school community's capacity to undertake sustainability projects, as not only are students and teachers involved, but so is the wider school community of parent and school committees such as the P & C.

**It is recommended that \$14,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Green Schools Sustainability Fund**

STORMWATER ASSESSMENT FOR CLIMATE CHANGE, POLLUTION AND FUTURE MAINTENANCE IN COFFS CREEK

This project comprises both a monitoring campaign and the preparation of a report card with prioritised outlets. During the project water quality analysis of various stormwater outlets will be undertaken. At the completion of the project, targeted outlets will be fitted with Stormwater Quality Improvement Devices (SQIDS) which will improve the water quality reaching the downstream environment.

**It is recommended that \$10,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Stormwater Assessment for Climate Change, Pollution and Future Maintenance in Coffs Creek**

THE WOOLGOOLGA FLYING-FOX CAMP STRATEGY INCLUDING STAGE 1 IMPLEMENTATION

Management of Flying-Fox Camps in the Coffs Harbour LGA is recognized as a priority under the Biodiversity Action Strategy. In order to protect, restore and manage the Flying-Fox maternity camp in Woolgoolga, a strategy needs to be developed and approved by both state and federal governments. The document will include vegetation management, direct amelioration of concerns within the community such as ongoing water quality monitoring, information packages, links, protective fencing, signage and tourist interpretive materials. Implementation Stage 1 is subject to results of the strategy and therefore is not recommended for funding this round.

**It is recommended that \$15,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for the Woolgoolga Flying-Fox Camp Strategy Study (Stage 1 Implementation subject to study - no funding this round)**

COFFS AMBASSADORS VOLUNTEER INTERPRETIVE TOURS

This program involves community volunteers running short interpretive tours within the LGA that the volunteers themselves develop on themes that interest them. Volunteers receive training from NPWS Discovery rangers in tour interpretation and design and then are mentored by a Ranger and Council staff member to help plan their tour. As of December 2009, eight volunteer tour guides had completed their training and commenced their tours in January. All tours conducted have been booked out in advance.

**It is recommended that \$15,000 be allocated from the 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program for Coffs Ambassadors Volunteer Interpretive Tours**

**PROJECTS NOT RECOMMENDED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY FUNDING:**

NEWPORTS CREEK REVEGETATION PROJECT

This project would help to re-establish riparian vegetation throughout the middle regions of the overland flow channel, an area of approx. 1 hectare. The planting would supplement work currently being undertaken along Newport's Creek and the wick wiping program within the drainage channel funding through a developer cash payment.

Cont'd

COFFS COAST STATE PARK BOAMBEE CREEK REHABILITATION PROJECT

Council has prepared a draft plan of management, vegetation management plan and fire strategy for this area. The site has been identified as high conservation significance in the priority habitats and corridors strategy (draft); contains several EEC's, SEPP 26 & 14 sites provides habitat for a number of endangered species and has a strong resident koala population. Works to be undertaken would be weed removal, track rehabilitation and closures and management of boat traffic through signage, fencing and public education.

A BRIGHT IDEA: BRUCE KING DRIVE SOLAR LIGHTING

The project objectives are to provide street lighting on a frequently used public road and to utilise solar powered street lights to ascertain their effectiveness for future use.

HEADLAND MANAGEMENT PROJECT

This project is to create and operate an inter-agency project working group, produce a scenic amenity value and a viewing opportunity GIS layer for coastal headlands, Create a detailed survey with mapping of vegetation, Analyse the historic aerial photography, Reconcile competing and complementary values of future management intent and Integrate management intent into operational plans.

COFFS COAST OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, CULTURAL HERITAGE AND PERFORMANCE VENUE

This project would allow individuals and groups to learn about local Aboriginal cultural heritage and environmental issues through the innovative and creative approaches to the interpretive panels that the local community and large number of visitors and tourist will be able to view at the site. The outdoor amphitheatre would support national parks and wildlife services and could be a platform for the use of local performers.

POUNDYARD CREEK, WEST WOOLGOOLGA REHABILITATION

The project proposed to re-establish riparian habitat on the southern portion of the land (a portion of this land will be sporting fields in the future), which is approximately 4.5 hectares and undertake enhancement planting within the floodplain to the north. Weed removal would also be required throughout the riparian corridor.

BOAMBEE HEADLAND COASTAL WALK SAFETY FENCE

The Boambee Headland Coastal Walk has been constructed with previous Environmental Levy funding for materials with the labour component provided through EnviTE work for the dole teams. The walk is highly popular. Three sections of the walk have been identified requiring safety fencing. The submission was to install safety fencing.

IMPACT ON FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS

Over the past seven years regeneration of the riparian zones has been undertaken by CHCC and Landcare groups, and these have been monitored using macro invertebrates as bio-indicators, to assess the results for future management plans. Work to be undertaken in 2010/11 will be to continue assessing the rivers with natural leaf packs in conjunction with artificial leaf packs. The results from the natural leaf pack data will now be continued and the dataset expanded to include new sites on the recommendation of the priority Habitats and Corridors Strategy.

*\*\*Due to surplus in funds, there is no money allocated to this project for 2010/2011 but will be reviewed for the 2011/2012 financial year subject to receipt of submission\*\**

WIND ENERGY FEASIBILITY

This project proposes to undertake a pre feasibility study of the potential for wind energy development sites within the Coffs Coast Region to assist council's uptake of clean renewable wind energy technology.

Cont'd

**CB10/17 2010/2011 Environmental Projects Schedule ...(Cont'd)**

Other Departments Comments:

Council staff and members of the Environmental Working Group were consulted in the preparation of this report.

**Implementation Date / Priority:**

The recommendations of this report will be implemented immediately upon Council adoption.

**Recommendation:**

1. That the Draft 2010/2011 Environmental Levy Program as recommended by the Environmental Levy Working Group as listed below, be incorporated into Council's 2010/2011 Draft Delivery Program:

Project	Recommended Amount
Matching Grant Funding (future grants to be decided)	\$15,179
Environmental Levy Coordination	\$47,200
Conservation and Sustainable Management of Biodiversity in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area (wages for Bio Officers)	\$180,000
Supporting Community Action in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area	\$90,622
Coffs Jetty Foreshore Reserve Followup Jetty Dune Care Group	\$9,999
Orara River Restoration Project Cats Claw Creeper/Honey Locust Propagation Nursery Revegetation/Tree Planter Camphor Laurel/Privet Control Erosion Control/Fencing	\$190,000
Boambee Beach (bush regeneration and dune care work)	\$9,950
Ground Truthing of the New Generation Vegetation Layer (final)	\$25,000
Bushland Regeneration (wages for Bush Regeneration Officer and two assistants)	\$160,000
Bank Stabilisation – Fishing Club – Ferguson Cottage Area	\$4,450
Solitary Islands Coastal Walk – Charlesworth Bay to Diggers Headland	\$30,000
Coffs Harbour LGA Biodiversity Monitoring Program (Stage 1: Project Plan Preparation)	\$15,000
Environmental Weed Control Program 2009/10 Bitou Bush Camphor Laurel Privet Glory Lily Pine Trees Celtis/Pepper Tree Vine Weeds	\$100,000
Koala Plan of Management 2009 – Implementation 2010-2011	\$35,000
Repair Creek Banks Surrounding Edward Sharpe Bridge	\$21,600
Biodiversity Management in the Coffs Harbour Local Government Area (Biodiversity Action Strategy Studies: Threatened Species - Quassia Project and Threatened Amphibian Census.)	\$25,000
Botanic Gardens Education Officer	\$18,000
Green Schools Sustainability Fund	\$14,000
Stormwater Assessment for Climate Change, Pollution and future maintenance	\$10,000
The Woolgoolga Flying-Fox Camp Strategy including Stage 1 implementation	\$15,000
Coffs Ambassadors Volunteer Interpretive Tours	\$15,000
	<b>\$1,031,000.00</b>

Cont'd

***Funding Sources***

Environmental Levy	\$971,000
Interest on reserve	\$10,000
Water fund contribution	\$50,000
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>\$1,031,000</b>

2. That a contribution of \$50,000 from the Water Fund be provided in the 2010/2011 Delivery Program towards Orara River Rehabilitation Project, which is available subject to works receiving prior approval from Executive Manager, Operations – Coffs Coast Water
3. That Council notes the Minutes of the Environmental Working Group meeting held on 16 February 2010.
4. That final replies to submissions be sent after Council's 2010/2011 Delivery Program is adopted.
5. That members of the Environmental Working Group be thanked for their involvement and informed of the adopted program.

**Craig Milburn**  
**Director**  
**Corporate Business**

Attachment:

## ENVIRONMENTAL LEVY WORKING GROUP

Tuesday, 16 February 2010  
Council Chambers

Attendees: Cr Keith Rhoades (Chairman) George Stulle  
Cr Rodney Degens Tony Mutkins  
Cr Mark Graham Jeff Green  
Garry Dew Breana Clark  
Rod McKelvey  
Jane Ireland  
Justin Couper  
Apologies: Adrian Maloney

### MINUTES

#### Meeting Opened – 4 pm

1. **Adoption of minutes from previous meeting**

Minutes accepted.

2. **Disclosure of Interests**

Submission No.	Pecuniary Interest	Non-pecuniary Interest
10		Rod McKelvey
4		Rod McKelvey Garry Dew
12		Jane Ireland
21		Jane Ireland
22		Jane Ireland

3. **Current Status of Environmental Levy Program 2009/10**

- Garry Dew raised the issue of Impact on Freshwater Ecosystems and that the money allocated has not been spent. Jeff Green suggested not allocating funds for the 2010/11 financial year.

- Garry Dew raised the issue of Bushland Regeneration and Environmental Weed Control not spending enough. The committee was then shown data comparing expenditure for the last four years for these two programs. It was decided that the lack of spending this financial year could be due to weather.

- Garry Dew raised the issue of NSW Coastline Cycleway - High St to Nightingale St (through drainage reserve) funds not being spent. George Stulle advised that they have started the design process and the works of this nature are usually done at the end of the financial year.

#### **4. Scoring of Submissions**

- Jeff Green advised that Impact on Freshwater Ecosystems should not receive any funding this year due to surplus in funds and can be reviewed next financial year. The committee agreed.
- Jeff Green raised the issue of Wind Energy Feasibility Study. He said that we have already had studies and it is not a feasible project for Coffs Harbour City Council. It is agreed that the committee will not score this submission. Cr Mark Graham advised information on this issue is available and should be researched rather than allocate funding.
- Jeff Green advised that the following submissions have been reviewed and the funding requirements reduced as follows:
  - Koala Plan of Management 2009 - Implementation 2010-11 funding requested now \$35,000 instead of \$80,000
  - The Woolgoolga Flying-Fox Camp Strategy including Stage 1 Implementation funding requested now \$15,000 instead of \$46,000.
  - Ground Truthing of the New Generation Vegetation Layer (Final) funding requested now \$35,000 instead of \$88,000.
  - Biodiversity Management in The Coffs Harbour LGA funding requested now \$30,000 instead of \$87,000.
- Scoring and ranking of submissions took place.
- Mayor Rhoades left meeting at 4.45pm and handed the chair to Tony Mutkins.

#### **5. Other issues/General Business**

- Garry Dew raised the issue of council wages being used in the in-kind column of submissions and stated that they should not be put in that column. Cr Mark Graham said that some are internal works and some are external and it is hard to clarify what's what.
- Jenny Ireland raised the issue of council wages and asked if any of the salaries come out of council funds or if they are fully funded by the Environmental Levy. Tony Mutkins said that the three positions are fully funded through the Environmental Levy. Cr Mark Graham said that administration is a statutory requirement which should be guaranteed through council therefore administration costs should be paid through council, not through the Environmental Levy. Jeff Green said that Cr Mark Graham can raise his concerns at a Council meeting if he wants to.
- Cr Mark Graham raised concerns that the Vertebrae Pest Management covers the pig control and it wasn't included in the 2010/11 submissions. Jeff Green stated that they already have money to fund the pig control.
- Tony Mutkins stated that the \$50,000 contributed to the Orara River Rehabilitation Project from the water fund will have to be spent on particular things this year for example, keeping the cows out of the river to improve water quality.

**Meeting closed - 5.30 pm**

## CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT

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**CS10/9 TENDER: PLANT REPLACEMENT PROGRAM - SUPPLY OF ONE BLOWER TYPE ROAD PATCHING UNIT MOUNTED ON A 16,000KG GVM TRUCK - CONTRACT NO. 09/10-423-TO**

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### **Purpose:**

To advise Council of the result of calling tenders for the purchase of a Blower Type Road Patching unit mounted on a 16,000kg GVM truck and recommend approval to purchase under the 2009/2010 Plant Replacement Program.

### **Description of Item:**

The road patching unit is used in Council's operational areas for maintenance of the Coffs Harbour City Council road network. It will be managed by Council's Plant Fund and operated and maintained in accordance with general plant procedures. This type of road patching unit has become a standard plant item for Council's road maintenance operation.

Tenders closed on the 5<sup>th</sup> January 2010 for the purchase of a new Blower Type Road Patching unit.

Tenders were required to provide the following options:

- (a) Supply with trade of Council's existing road patching unit.
- (b) Supply without trade.
- (c) Outright purchase of Council's existing road patching unit without supplying a replacement unit.

One conforming tender was received for options (a) and (b) from the following:

1. Paveline International Pty Ltd.

One Nonconforming tender was received from.

1. Ausroad Systems Pty Ltd

No Tenders were received for option (c):

### **Sustainability Assessment:**

Tenders for the road patching unit were called following adoption of the 2009/2010 Plant Replacement Program. Sustainability issues have been considered in the specification and tender evaluation, as follows:

**Cont'd**

**CS10/9 Tender: Plant Replacement Program - Supply of One Blower Type Road Patching Unit Mounted on a 16,000kg GVM Truck - Contract No. 09/10-423-TO ...(Cont'd)**

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- **Environment**

- Emission standards are in accordance with European standards 'Tier III'.
- Service frequency and the reduction of waste products on oil and filters.
- Noise levels.
- The percentage of bio fuel that the machines can operate on so as to reduce Council's reliance on fossil fuels.

- **Social**

Council has a sealed road network of 677km of urban and rural roads. To maintain the road surface in a trafficable condition it is necessary to patch potholes as they occur. The community expectation is increasing in regards to the level of service that Council provides for road patching and repairs, accordingly it is necessary to have equipment that can deliver an efficient and costs effective service to the benefit of the community.

- **Economic**

Funds for the changeover have been allocated in the 2009/10 Plant Fund budget.

Council's change over policy for the replacement of all plant is determined by:

- The continued necessity for the unit.
- The external hiring costs of plant as compared to Council costs to own and operate comparable plant items.
- Projected plant resale values.
- Projected repair and maintenance costs.
- Current operational downtime of the existing patching truck which is being replaced.

**Management Plan Implications:**

Funds for the purchase have been allocated in the 2009/10 plant replacement budget approved in the management plan.

**Consultation:**

The tender evaluation has included consultation with Council's City Services, plant operators, workshop and operational staff.

**Related Policy and / or Precedents:**

Tendering procedures were carried out in accordance with Council's Purchasing Policy.

**Statutory Requirements:**

The calling, receiving, opening and reviewing of tenders was carried out in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005.

**Cont'd**

**CS10/9 Tender: Plant Replacement Program - Supply of One Blower Type Road Patching Unit Mounted on a 16,000kg GVM Truck - Contract No. 09/10-423-TO ...(Cont'd)**

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**Issues:**

During the assessment it was found that the tender from Ausroad Systems Pty Ltd was nonconforming as pricing required in the tender submission for options for the operators cabin was not offered, accordingly the offer from Ausroad Systems Pty Ltd can not be considered.

**Recommendation:**

**That Council consider Tenders received for the supply of one Blower Type Patching Unit mounted on a 16,000kg GVM Truck, Contract No. 09/10-423-TO and move the motion as detailed in the confidential attachment.**

**Jenni Eakins  
Acting Director  
City Services**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

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**QON10/4      INTERNATIONAL STADIUM - RECOMMENDATIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL STADIUM BOARD**

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**Purpose:**

Councillor Jenny Bonfield asked the following questions:

*How are they acted upon?*

*What authority does the Board have in allocation of funds?*

*How is the Stadium funded?*

*What is Council's financial involvement and liability?*